

## **The Robb Center**

*Donald and Victoria Robb*

Don Robb and his wife Vicki dedicated their five decades as Andover residents to public service. Vicki Robb passed away in November of 2018 and Don passed away in October of 2019.

Don Robb's legacy will surpass his years of service to his community. The boards and committees he served on looked to Don as a compass during deliberations, and there was never a doubt about Don's intentions: to improve the quality of life of Andover residents and to bring positive change to benefit the community. Don served on the School Committee and Finance Committee, and at the time of his passing was serving as a Trustee of the Spring Grove Cemetery, as Chairman of the Elder Services Task Force, and as a member of the Revenue and Expenditure Task Force. Don was also very active in Andover's Center for History and Culture, which honored him in 2017 at their annual Be Giving event for his work on advancing the Historic Mill District. Don was well known as Andover's de-facto "Town Historian".

While Don's service to Andover may be unmatched, perhaps his most profound service to the town was his work to expand and renovate the senior center. Don steadfastly worked to ensure that the 2019 Town Meeting approved funding for the renovation and expansion of the senior center – work that began nearly a decade earlier. Through Don's stewardship, the Wood Family Foundation generously donated funds to support this project which will provide the space to expand the capacity of our multi-generational programming in Andover.

As the Chairman of the Elder Services Task Force, Don was a champion of the Senior Tax Exemption Program which was approved by Town Meeting and enabled by Special Legislation in summer of 2018. The program which went into effect on July 1, 2019 will directly benefit over 150 Andover seniors and provide them with the opportunity to remain in their homes. Don was a tireless advocate of Andover seniors and could often be found in attendance at Board and Committee meetings promoting the interests of the senior community.

Alongside Don throughout all of his tireless work on behalf of Andover was his wife Vicki. Together they raised six children in Andover. Vicki worked for several years as a manager at Pomp's Pond where her lifeguards received a Red Cross citation from President Ronald Reagan for their successful rescue of a drowning swimmer. Together, Don and Vicki were a force in our community.

Don's legacy should be one of building a stronger community for the people of Andover. A community that treasures its past and embraces its future. The renovated and expanded senior center will represent those values and with the Board's approval will appropriately be named after two people that represented the same. As an expert on Shawsheen Village, Don would often remark about William Wood's desire to build an inclusive, one of a kind community that brought people together for not just for housing, but for the purposes of education, recreation and commerce.